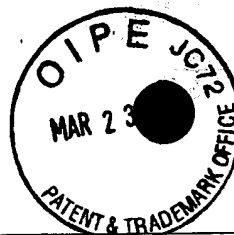


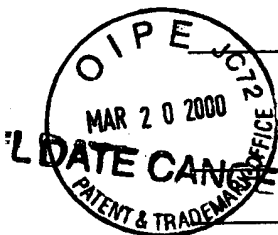
KINNEY
& LANGE

THE KINNEY & LANGE BUILDING
310 SOUTH THIRD STREET
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55415-1002
(612) 339-1863



#3

DECLARATION



DECLARATION FOR UTILITY
PATENT APPLICATION
(37 C.F.R. 1.63)

| | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Attorney Docket No. | B758.312-1 |
| First Named Inventor | Hubertus E. M. STASSEN |
| Filed | December 22, 1999 |

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that my residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

METHOD OF THERMICALLY TREATING A CARBOACEOUS MATERIAL-COMPRISING AQUEOUS FLUID AND AN APPARATUS THEREFOR

the specification of which:

☒ is attached hereto; and/or

☒ was filed on June 26, 1998 as PCT International Application Number PCT/NL98/00371

☒ and was amended under PCT Article 19 on August 16, 1999 (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or of any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

| Prior Foreign Application Number(s) | Country | Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY) | Certified Copy Attached? | | No Priority Claimed? |
|--|-----------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|----|-------------------------|
| | | | Yes | No | |
| 1,006,404 | the Netherlands | 06/26/97 | | X | |

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

| Application Number(s) | Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY) |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| | |
| | |
| | |

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 120 of any United States application(s), or 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT international application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

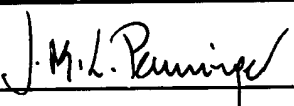
| U.S. Parent Application or PCT Parent Number | Parent Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY) | Parent Patent Number (if applicable) |
|--|------------------------------------|---|
| PCT/NL98/00371 | June 26, 1998 | |

DIRECT ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

| | |
|-----------|---|
| Name | Jeffrey D. Shewchuk |
| Address | Kinney & Lange, P.A. The Kinney & Lange Building 312 South Third Street Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415-1002 United States |
| Telephone | (612) 339-1863 |
| Fax | (612) 339-6580 |

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

| | |
|--|--|
| Sole or First Inventor: | |
| Given Name (First and middle (if any)) | Family Name or Surname |
| Hubertus E. M. | STASSEN |
| Inventor's signature | Date: 20/01/2000 |
| Residence City, Country | Enschede, the Netherlands NLX Citizenship: Dutch |
| Post Office Address | Langenkampweg 107 |
| City, State, Country | Enschede, the Netherlands |

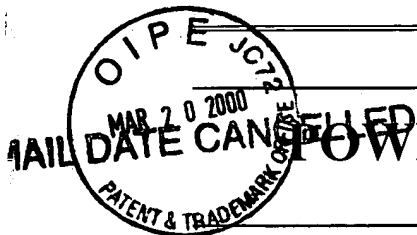
| | | | |
|--|--|------------------------|--------------------|
| Second Inventor: | | | |
| Given Name (First and middle (if any)) | | Family Name or Surname | |
| Johannes M.L. | | PENNINGER | |
| Inventor's signature |  Date: 01/20/2000 | | |
| Residence City, Country | Hengelo, the Netherlands | | Citizenship: Dutch |
| Post Office Address | Boerhaavelaan 18 | | |
| City, State, Country | Hengelo, the Netherlands | | |

KINNEY
& LANGE

THE KINNEY & LANGE BUILDING
312 SOUTH THIRD STREET
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55415-1002
(612) 339-1863



POWER OF ATTORNEY



POWER OF ATTORNEY

Attorney Docket No.

B758.312-1

First Named Inventor: Hubertus E. M. STASSEN

Title: METHOD OF THERMICALLY TREATING A CARBONACEOUS MATERIAL-COMPRISING AQUEOUS FLUID AND AN APPARATUS THEREFOR

In the patent application:

☒ identified above (and submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office herewith).

☒ filed on June 26, 1998 as application Serial No. PCT/NL98/00371.

I appoint the attorneys and agents associated with Customer Number 00164 to prosecute the patent application identified above and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, including full power of association, substitution and revocation.

I ratify all prior actions taken by Kinney & Lange, P.A. or the attorneys and agents mentioned above in connection with the prosecution of the above-mentioned patent application.

I authorize Kinney & Lange, P.A. to mark the appropriate space above and to insert the filing date and Serial No. of the application, as appropriate.

I authorize the attorneys and agents named herein to accept and follow instructions from Los & Stigter as to any action to be taken in the Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the attorneys and agents and the undersigned. In the event of a change in the persons from whom instructions may be taken, the attorneys and agents named herein will be so notified by the undersigned.

Please address all correspondence and telephone calls to Jeffrey D. Shewchuk in care of:

KINNEY & LANGE, P.A.
The Kinney & Lange Building
312 South Third Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415-1002
Phone: (612) 339-1863 Fax: (612) 339-6580

BTG Biomass Technology Group B.V.

Signature: [Signature]

Printed Name: H.E.M. STASSEN

Title: DIRECTOR

Date: 20/01/2000

Sparqle International B.V.

Signature: [Signature]

Printed Name: J.M.L. PENNINGER

Title: Managing Director

Date: 01/20/2000

KINNEY
& LANGE

KINNEY & LANGE BUILDING
SOUTH THIRD STREET
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55415-1002
(612) 339-1863

SUBMISSION UNDER
37 C.F.R. 3.73(b)

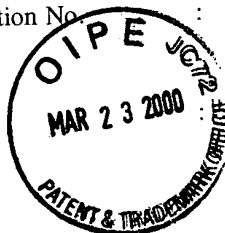
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First Named Inventor : Huebertus E. M. STASSEN

Application No. :

Filed

For



December 22, 1999

METHOD OF THERMICALLY TREATING
A CARBONACEOUS MATERIAL-
COMPRISING AQUEOUS FLUID AND AN
APPARATUS THEREFOR

Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

Docket No. : B758.312-1

SUBMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 3.73(b)

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING SENT BY
U.S. MAIL, FIRST CLASS, TO THE COMMISSIONER OF
PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231.
THIS 17th DAY OF March 2000

PATENT ATTORNEY

Sir:

BTG Biomass Technology Group B.V., a/an company, of the Netherlands, and Sparqlle International B.V., a company, of the Netherlands, are the owners of the patent application identified above by virtue of either:

A. ☒ An assignment from the inventor(s) of the patent application identified above. The assignment was recorded in the Patent and Trademark Office at Reel _____, Frame _____, or a copy of which is attached.

OR

B. A chain of title from the inventor(s), of the patent application identified above, to the current assignee as shown below:

1. From: _____ To: _____
The document was recorded in the Patent and Trademark Office at Reel _____, Frame _____, or a copy of which is attached.
2. From: _____ To: _____
The document was recorded in the Patent and Trademark Office at Reel _____, Frame _____, or a copy of which is attached.

which is attached.

3. From: _____ To: _____
The document was recorded in the Patent and Trademark Office at
Reel _____, Frame _____, or a copy of
which is attached.

The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is empowered to act on behalf of the
assignee.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that
all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these
statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements, and the like so made, may
be punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001, and that such willful false
statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

BTG Biomass Technology Group B.V.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____

Sparqle International B.V.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____

ASSIGNMENT

Attorney Docket No.

B758.312-1

First Named Inventor : Hubertus E. M. STASSEN
Title : METHOD OF THERMICALLY TREATING A CARBONACEOUS MATERIAL-
COMPRISING AQUEOUS FLUID AND AN APPARATUS THEREFOR

As a below named inventor, I, Hubertus E. M. STASSEN, of Langenkampweg 107, NL-7522 LM Enschede, the Netherlands, and Johannes Mathieu Leonardus PENNINGER, of Boerhaavelaan 18, NL-7555 BC, Hengelo, the Netherlands have invented certain new and useful improvements as described in a non-provisional application entitled METHOD OF THERMICALLY TREATING A CARBONACEOUS MATERIAL-COMPRISING AQUEOUS FLUID AND AN APPARATUS THEREFOR for Letters Patent of the United States, the application having been executed on even date herewith, and/or being identifiable as PCT International Application Number PCT/NL98/00371, filed June 26, 1998;

WHEREAS, BTG Biomass Technology Group B.V., a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the Netherlands, and having offices at Drienerlolaan 5, 7522 NB Enschede, the Netherlands ("Assignee"), and Sparqle International B.V., a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the Netherlands, and having offices at Boerhaavelaan 18, NL-7555 BC Hengelo, the Netherlands ("collectively") are desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to the invention, the application, and any and all United States Letters Patent or similar legal protection to be obtained therefor;

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and adequacy of which is hereby acknowledged, I transfer to Assignee, its successors and assigns, my entire right, title and interest in and to the invention, the above-identified application and all Letters Patent or similar legal protection issuing thereon; and I authorize the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks of the United States to issue the Letters Patent or similar legal protection to the Assignee.

I authorize the Assignee, its successors and assigns, to insert in this instrument the filing date and application number of the application when ascertained.

I authorize the Assignee, its successors and assigns, or anyone it may properly designate, to apply for Letters Patent or similar legal protection, in its own name if desired.

I represent to the Assignee, its successors and assigns, that I have not and shall not execute any writing or do any act whatsoever conflicting with this Assignment. I, my executors or administrators, will at any time upon request, without additional consideration, but at the expense of the Assignee, its successors and assigns, execute such additional writings and do such additional acts as the Assignee, its successors and assigns, may deem desirable to perfect its enjoyment of this grant, and render all assistance in making application for and obtaining, maintaining, and enforcing the Letters Patent or similar legal protection on the invention in the United States.

KINNEY
& LANGE

KINNEY & LANGE BUILDING
311 NORTH THIRD STREET
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55415-1002
(612) 339-1863

ASSIGNMENT

FIRST INVENTOR:

Signature: [Signature]

Date: 10/01/2000

Printed Name: Hubertus E. M. Stassen

Witnessed By: [Signature]

Printed Name: M. DE VOS

Address: R. SCOTT STRAAT 120
7534 ZR ENSCHEDE
NETHERLANDS

SECOND INVENTOR:

Signature: J. M. L. Penninger

Date: 01/20/2000

Printed Name: Johannes Mathieu Leonardus Penninger

Witnessed By: [Signature]

Printed Name: M. DE VOS

Address: R. Scottstraat 128
7534 ZR Enschede - NL